Dear All

As this will be the last newsletter I write for 2014 I would like to thank the school community for their wonderful support and input into the education of our fantastic students. I sincerely thank everyone who has assisted the staff and students either in or out of the classrooms. I’d also like to thank all staff members, both teaching and support staff for their continued dedication and commitment to our students.

It has been a very busy and productive year and I am sure 2015 will be just as successful. Next year, the very successful Bluearth, drama and Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden programs will continue.

It has been a privilege being the leader of this wonderful school for the past four years and I look forward to continuing to work with the staff, students and parents/carers of Albury Public School in 2015 as I return to my substantive role as Deputy Principal.

PRESENTATION DAY - This morning we held a very successful Presentation Day for Year 2-6 students at Albury High School hall. It was great to see so many students receiving awards or performing. Unfortunately we can only present a certain number of awards but I know the staff and I are very proud of the achievements of all our students. Everyone should feel very proud of their efforts this year and strive to continue to do their best in all their endeavours in 2015.

Congratulations to all students for taking pride in their uniform and looking so great in their formal summer uniform. Thank you to the many families and friends who were able to join us on this special day. I congratulate Miss Macleod and the Senior Choir, Miss Heywood and 4LB who performed a French item and Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden programs will continue.

Congratulations to these students :-

2015 School Captains-  
Sally Lefoe and Ben White

2015 Vice Captains-  
Ziggy Lamond and Harkirat Singh

I am sure you will all fulfil your roles admirably. The recipients of the special awards, both academic and sporting are printed on page 2 of this newsletter. Congratulations again to them all!

LOCAL LAND HEROES- Yesterday I attended the book launch of the Creative Catchment Kids program. Students researched, wrote and illustrated stories about ‘Local Land Heroes’. Congratulations to the eight Year 6 students- Ravnit Sekhon, Sophie Burke, Laura Gillard, Belle Henderson, Ellie Zilberman, Grace Butlin, Lily Burgess and Lily Hansford who published their book about Ravnit and her family. The school received a set of books for our school library and a copy was sent for display in the National Library in Canberra.

2015 NEWS- A reminder that students in Yrs 1-6 return to school on Wednesday 28 January. As is the custom, students will return to their 2014 classes for a few days until enrolment numbers are finalised. New Kindergarten students will receive a letter stating their starting time for Thursday 29 January. Our current enrolment numbers indicate we will remain having 23 classes, with four straight Kindergarten classes. In 2015 we farewell Miss Kathryn Bonham and thank her for her dedication to her class 5AB. We welcome back Mrs Leann Dicketts, who will be returning from maternity leave and Mrs Helen Berndt returning as a Learning and Support teacher.

To conclude I wish you and your families a very happy festive season and a relaxing, safe holiday.

Merry Christmas to all! Carolyn Howard, Principal (Rel).
PRESENTATION DAY SPECIAL AWARDS 2014

DUX OF THE SCHOOL- Tom Grigg
PERFORMING ARTS AWARD- Junior- Paige Double, Senior- Hattie Evans
CREATIVE ARTS AWARD- Junior- Alex Lutton, Senior– Pearl McMillan
SCHOOL MUSIC AWARD- Aylish Jorgensen
SCHOOL CITIZENSHIP- Bailey Clemson and Ben Pedler
PRINCIPAL’S AWARD- Tom Grigg
JANE CUMMINS LOTE AWARD- Madison Hopper
UNSW International Writing Competition High Distinctions- Bridgette Gay, Eve Zawertailo, Ian Howsam, Grace McGarvie and Harry Cameron
JUNIOR SPORTS PERSON- Ava Tuksar
SENIOR SPORTS PERSON- Bailey Clemson
MICHAEL CARNEY SPORTS CITIZENSHIP AWARD- Connor Bartasiu

NSW PREMIER’S SPORTING CHALLENGE MEDAL- Natalie Gibbons

STAGE 3 CELEBRATION DAY- On Friday 12 December Year 5 and 6 will be going to Albury Regent Cinema to watch ‘Big Hero 6’ at 10:30am. Permission notes are due back on Thursday 11 December. The movie will be followed by party food for lunch at 12:30pm back at school. It would be appreciated if your child could provide some food according to what their class has been allocated:- 6ACP- Fruit, 6AP- Savoury snacks, 5/6AB- Savoury snacks, 5/6AKB- Sweet snacks, 5LN- Sweet snacks, 5AB- Savoury snacks and 4/5LM- Fruit

YEAR 6 GRADUATION ASSEMBLY- Year 6 students will be presented with their Graduation Certificates at our Year 6 Graduation Assembly to be held on Tuesday 16 December 2014. This Assembly will be held in the APS Hall commencing at 11:30am and finishing at approximately 12:45pm. All students are to wear their formal summer school uniform.

STAGE 3 DINNER AND DISCO- The Year 6 Farewell Dinner and Disco will be held on Tuesday 16 December 2014. Permission notes are due back on Friday 12 December. Year 6 students are invited to the Dinner and Disco and are to arrive no earlier than 5:45pm via the Smollett Street gates, to share nibbles under the COLA. Please collect your child at 9:00pm from the Hall. Year 5 students are invited to attend the Disco and are to arrive no earlier than 7pm via the Smollett Street gates near the canteen. Please collect your child at 9:00pm from the Hall. The 2015 Student Councillors are invited to the Dinner, prior to the Disco. The 2015 Councillors are also asked to bring a small plate of nibbles to share prior to the dinner. These students will need to arrive no earlier than 5:45pm. Jess Brooker, Assistant Principal (Rel.)

SPORTS NEWS- 2015 YRS 3-6 SWIMMING CARNIVAL- Our 2015 swimming carnival will be held on Friday 30 January (Wk1, T1). All events will be conducted during the day. Students will come to school as normal and catch buses to the Swim centre. The carnival will commence at 9:30am and conclude around 2:30pm. We ask any parents who can help on the day to please pop this date on their 2015 calendar. Please ensure your child has returned their permission note and money by next Monday,15 December. The note is on the APS website.

PSSA SPORT- I would like to personally thank our teachers, parents, family and friends who have assisted throughout our summer and winter PSSA seasons. I know that it takes a great deal of time out of schedules and requires an enormous amount of organisation. If it was not for our PSSA coaches, family and friends, APS would not be able to participate in this terrific competition. I would also like to thank our students for representing APS with pride and demonstrating sportsmanship on a weekly basis. Thank you, Chris Bourke, Sport Coordinator.

PSSA SOFTBALL- The Senior Boys softball had a great win over Lavington East. Many of the boys hit a home run and were eager to swap positions to work on other skills. The Senior Girls had a bye for their final game so they played against each other; enjoying a bit of friendly competition. I would like to thank all the players for their positive attitude throughout the season; each of them showed good sportsmanship and they were always ready to lend a hand with the kits. Well done everyone. Jess Brooker, Coordinator.

JUNIOR PSSA TEE-BALL- Last Friday APS Junior Girls Yellow lost to St Pats in a friendly game due to a bye, APS Mixed Blue won against LPS Yellow, Junior Girls Blue defeated LPS Yellow and Mixed Yellow defeated LEPS Red. It has been amazing to see so many students show such enthusiasm and willingness to try a new sport this term. Congratulations Tee-ballers! Thank you to the many parents who have assisted. It was greatly appreciated by all. Lynn Macleod, Coordinator.

PSSA TOUCH FOOTBALL- Unfortunately this week the juniors had a bye so the two senior teams represented APS. Albury Gold played Glenroy Blue and won 22-0 and Albury Blue played St Pats Gold and lost 6-4. Thank you to Mr Grigg for looking after the Senior Gold team. Joel Border, Nadene King, Coordinators.

PSSA CRICKET- The final match was played at Collings Park against St Pats Gold. The Senior team made 93 runs for a loss of 7 wickets. Zach Van Zanten and Elijah Farrah contributed significantly to our total. Tom Newman, Harry Carmody and Sam Brown were reliable when fielding and bowling, taking a few catches and wickets. The Junior team finished the innings at 5/115. Brodie Porta, Caleb Clemson and Eddie Brooksby batted well. Jake Cooper and Jesse Hart were part of a terrific bowling line up, supported by their team mates out on the field. Thank you to John Boyd and Shane Green for help with coaching and umpiring. Christel Pargeter.
Thursday 11 December will be the last Canteen Day for 2014!  
CLOSED on 12 December onwards.

Thank you to everyone for your help throughout 2014. The Canteen has had a great year. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We appreciate your help.  
Rachael and Ali, Coordinators, 60212370.

WATER POLO - REGIONAL SELECTION INFORMATION FOR 2015- Water Polo trials will take place on the day of the Swimming Carnival (Friday 30 January 2015). Students who will be in Years 5 and 6 in 2015 will be eligible to take part in the trials. It is advantageous that students play flippa ball or competition water polo so they have knowledge of the game and skills. The students who are selected will attend Regional trials in Wagga at a later date in Term 1. The Regional water polo teams will then take part in a gala day in term 4 in Sydney.  
Christel Pargeter, Coordinator.

LIBRARY- Some students still have outstanding books. It would be appreciated if they could be returned to the library as soon as possible. Thank you, Alison Griffith.

CHRISTMAS CARDS- Could students please wait until next week before distributing Christmas cards to friends? Also candy canes must be eaten after school, not before or during school.

LOST PROPERTY- Please remind your children to look in the lost property bins in each building if they have lost a jumper, hat, drink bottle, etc. Any items left by the end of the term will be sent to a charity.

P & C NEWS
FAMILY FUN FAIR APOLOGY- Sodens Hotel was inadvertently left off last weeks newsletter thanking those businesses that donated to our fun fair. We thank Sodens for their generous donation and apologise for this oversight. Stuart Howsam, Secretary, P & C.

MANGO MANIA- A big thankyou to Ian Pantling and Stuart Howsam who unloaded 320 trays of mangoes off the truck yesterday. They probably don’t want to see another mango for a while! A big thankyou also, to all the parents who helped hand out the mangoes yesterday, it was greatly appreciated. We raised $2080.00!  
Lou Newman P & C committee member

P & C RAFFLE- Thank you to all who purchased and sold tickets. The amazing Christmas cake has been won by Fay Rofe. Enjoy!  
First Prize (the ladies bike from Full Cycle) has been won by Leanne Bridgeman.
Second Prize (Rydges accommodation and LaMaison meal) – Justin Chu.
Third Prize (Martin’s Travel voucher) – Pat Welch.
Fourth Prize (Flyaway Gymnastics party) - Max Murray.

$3627.50 was raised in these raffles. Congratulations to all our winners. Sharon Green, Vice President, P & C.

REVERSE CHRISTMAS TREE- Please remember to bring in a present to place under the Reverse Christmas Tree in the front foyer. St David’s Uniting Care will be collecting the gifts on Monday 15 December, at the morning assembly. Thank you in anticipation. Jenny Boehm, Coordinator.

KINDERGARTEN AND YEAR 1 HARVEY’S FUN PARK CELEBRATION DAY  
Can all Kindergarten and Year 1 students please remember to pack a change of clothes for Harvey’s Fun Park as you may get a little bit wet on the slides, sunscreen, hat, water bottle, fruit break and recess. Students will be provided with one sausage and an icy-pole. If your child has special dietary requirements please pack their lunch. Thank you to all those parents who have volunteered their time to help out at Harvey’s Fun Park. There are lots of you which is great! You will be required to help with your class rotating around the activities and some will be needed to help on the BBQ. Talk to your child’s class teacher and they will give you an indication of where you may be needed. Kindergarten and Year 1 will arrive at Harvey’s Fun Park at around 10:00am and depart around 2:15pm. Please have your child at school at the usual time, as we will mark rolls before catching buses. Miss Rachel Johnson, Assistant Principal (Rel.)

COMMUNITY NEWS
GET A GRIP TENNIS CLINIC- From 19 - 22 January, 2015. Fun, exercise and skills for all ages and abilities.  
Bookings essential. Phone Kate on 0418 572 626 or visit www.getagripontennis.com

COMMUNITY CAROLS- Tuesday 16 December from 6:00-9:00pm at the Albury Presbyterian Church, 402 Wagga Rd Lavington. For further information please visit www.alburycarols.org.au

ORAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS– Phone Murrumbidgee Local Health District on 1800 450 046 for further information.
Thank you to all students who participated. The money raised will go towards the colour printing costs of the Year 6 year book.